GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1910
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2000
RESERVATION FACILITY AT JAMMU RAILWAY STATION
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Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether pilgrims visiting Mata Vaishno Devi are facing problems to get reservation tickets at Jammu Railway Station;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore ;

(c) whether Railway authorities are in league with the ticket blackers in selling the tickets; and

(d) if so, the action taken in the matter ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) to (d): Most of the pilgrims visiting Mata Vaishnoo Devi Shrine make advance return programme and book their accommodation in advance before starting their journey from the originating stations. However, thirteen reservation windows at Jammu Tawi station and Two counters at Katra have also been provided for seeking reservation. Moreover, during the seasonal period of rush like, Summer, Pooja, Christmas, Navratras, etc., extra windows are also opened.

In order to bridge the gap between the demand and supply, various steps have been taken which include :-

(i) Augmentation of capacity of 2403/2404 Jammu Tawi Pooja Express by running it with 24 coaches.

(ii) Augmentation the load of the existing trains running between Jammu and other cities.

(iii) Running of special trains during rush periods.

To curb the activities of unscrupulous elements including railway staff indulging in malpractices in reservation, frequent checks are conducted by the Commercial and Vigilance Departments and action is taken against the persons apprehended.